

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Claims 1-15 (Canceled).

Claim 16 (Currently amended): In a fuel cell anode structure comprising a substrate wherein said substrate is a gas diffusion layer, a first carbon-based component comprising a first carbon material, and a second carbon component wherein the second carbon component acts as a support for an electrocatalyst material, said second carbon component being substantially more resistant to corrosion during cell reversal at fuel cell operating temperatures than first carbon-based component, the improvement comprising:

said first carbon-based component having substantially no resistance to corrosion during cell reversal at fuel cell operating temperatures and said first carbon material having a BET surface area of at least  $350 \text{ m}^2\text{g}^{-1}$ , wherein said first carbon-based component and said second carbon component are mixed and disposed on said gas diffusion layer.

Claims 17-24 (Canceled).

Claim 25 (Currently amended): ~~The improved anode structure of claim 16~~ In a fuel cell anode structure comprising a substrate wherein said substrate is a gas diffusion layer, a first carbon-based component comprising a first carbon material, and a second carbon component wherein the second carbon component acts as a support for an electrocatalyst material, said second carbon component being substantially more resistant to corrosion during cell reversal at fuel cell operating temperatures than first carbon-based component, the improvement comprising:

said first carbon-based component having substantially no resistance to corrosion during cell reversal at fuel cell operating temperatures and said first carbon material having a BET surface area of at least 350 m<sup>2</sup>g<sup>-1</sup>, wherein said first carbon-based component and said second carbon component are mixed and disposed within said gas diffusion layer.

Claims 26-28 (Canceled).

Claim 29 (Currently amended): A membrane electrode assembly comprising the improved anode structure of claim ~~16~~ 25, wherein said membrane electrode assembly is voltage reversal tolerant.

Claim 30 (Canceled).

Claim 31 (Currently amended): A fuel cell comprising a membrane electrode assembly comprising the improved anode structure of claim ~~16~~ 25.

Claim 32 (Canceled).

Claim 33 (Currently amended): A fuel cell comprising the improved anode structure of claim ~~16~~ 25.

Claims 34-35 (Canceled).

Claim 36 (New): A fuel cell comprising the improved anode structure of claim 16, wherein said gas diffusion layer has been coated or filled with a carbon filler material.

Claim 37 (New): A fuel cell comprising the improved anode structure of claim 25, wherein said gas diffusion layer has been coated or filled with a carbon filler material.